DIGITIZED

I John Leach Junr Boston March 6th 1770

of Boston, of Lawful age do Testify and Say, That the Last evening between the hours of Nine and Ten, I a young Lad, with my Self was going through the Alley by Mr. Austin Quincy's when we were half way through the Alley, a Soldier and a lusty man who I imagined by his dress to be an Inhabitant came behind us, and drove through us: The Soldier had a long Cutlass, and the Man with him a bludgeon. Their rushing through us in such a manner, gave occasion for one of us to Ask what the matter was; imediatly upon which the Man with the Soldier struck one of us on the Shoulder, Then the Soldier came up to us Swinging his Cutlass, and drove us out of the Alley: when we got out of the Alley, being apprehensive of Danger, we called out for Assistance on which several of the Inhabitants came to Inquire of us what was the matter; and a number of Soldiers directly appeared with Clubs and Cutlashes, and the people kept them in the Alley with some Sticks that they had, for fear of their Rushing on them and doing them a mischief: after Some time the people drop'd off,

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and the Soldiers come through, and fought with the Inhabitants more then a quarter of an hour. Two officers coming through the Alley, the Inhabitants complained to them of the Conduct of the Soldiers, they Replied to them, that they would send them to their Barracks: Then the people dispersed, and going down along at the bottom of Royal Exchange lane, the people followed run up Kingstreet, which number did; and after I got up to the head of the lane, I see Eight or Ten Soldiers with their Guns, a number of persons standing round them. in a few minutes, I heard some One say loud load & fire, which I took to be a person commanding the men, as One of them was an Officer: imediatly upon the word, one Gun was fired, then I heard the same Voice that said load & fire — Fire — Then the Soldiers fired from right to left among the Inhabitants, with their firelocks Levelled. tho' it appeared me by their Irregular firing, they seemed to be some what apart. After the firing, One of the Soldiers Struck me down with the butt of his Gun upon my Back, imediatly I got up, finding three men Dead and made the best of way home.

John Leach Junr

The above taken by Thos Dawes Coroners Inquisition on Saturday.